

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☒

Property Name: Residence at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) Inventory Number: AL-V-B-343
Address: 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no
City: LaVale Zip Code: 21502 County: Allegany
USGS Quadrangle(s): Cumberland
Property Owner: Elizabeth and Jimmie Murphy Tax Account ID Number: 022917
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 3 Tax Map Number: 7V
Project: ALT US 40: Streetscape Improvements, LaVale Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration
Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company
Preparer's Name: Catherine Dluzak/Barbara Frederick/Emma Young Date Prepared: 3/27/2006
Documentation is presented in: Allegany County Courthouse
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes Listed: ☐ yes
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The residence located at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) is a two-and-a-half-story, circa-1910, frame American Foursquare dwelling situated on the north side of the National Highway (ALT US 40). The rectangular footprint remains intact, and the dwelling is situated on a north-south axis. The dwelling lot occupies approximately 39,097.00 square feet. The building contains minor alterations and stands in relatively good condition.

The stylistic details of the American Foursquare dwelling suggest the residence was erected between 1908 and 1920. However, a review of land transactions between 1908 and 1920 does not provide evidence as to a specific date of construction, nor does it confirm the presence of a residence during this time. (For a detailed architectural description, history, and list of references, see the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, AL-V-B-343, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland).

Significance Evaluation

The residence located at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) currently stands in good condition. The dwelling is a typical example of the American Foursquare style found throughout the LaVale area.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments:

Jim Donlan
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Beatty
Reviewer, National Register Program

5/26/06

Date

5/29/06

Date

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory.

The residence located at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The dwelling is not associated with any events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history.

The dwelling is not eligible under Criterion B, as it has no known association with individuals of local historical importance.

The dwelling lacks the architectural distinction necessary to qualify it for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The dwelling is a typical example of the American Foursquare style, which is a common early-twentieth-century house form in Maryland. Despite the retention of integrity, the dwelling does not possess high artistic value, nor does it represent the work of a master.

The dwelling was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of the current investigation.

The dwelling retains integrity from the period of significance with few alterations and modifications to detract from the integrity of the building. The north (rear) porch appears to be the only modern alteration to the dwelling. Therefore, the residence at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) retains integrity of design, location, setting, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

Residence at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40)

AL-V-B-343

903 National Highway, LaVale

Ca. 1910

Private

The residence is a two-and-a-half-story, *circa*-1910, frame, American Foursquare dwelling situated on the north side of the National Highway (ALT US 40). The dwelling is a typical example of the American Foursquare style found throughout the LaVale area.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AL-V-B-343

1. Name of Property

Residence at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40)

historic Unknown

other

2. Location

street and number 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) not for publication

city, town LaVale vicinity

county Allegany

3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Elizabeth and Jimmie Murphy

street and number 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) telephone (301) 729-3888

city, town LaVale state MD zip code 21502

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Allegany County Courthouse liber 650 folio 422

city, town Cumberland tax map 7V tax parcel 3 tax ID number 022917

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- ☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. AL-V-B-343

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The residence located at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) is a two-and-a-half-story, *circa*-1910, frame American Foursquare dwelling situated on the north side of the National Highway (ALT US 40). The American Foursquare was a common early-twentieth-century suburban house form. American Foursquares commonly have hipped or pyramidal roofs, and are symmetrical, although entrances, which are located on the façades, may be off-center. Foursquares often feature single-story, full-width porches.¹ The dwelling lot occupies approximately 39,097.00 square feet. The building contains minor alterations and stands in relatively good condition.

Exterior Description

The symmetrical façade faces south, and a hipped roof, clad in slate shingles, caps the dwelling. The building is clad in weatherboard and sits atop a concrete foundation. An interior brick chimney protrudes from the center of the roof ridge. An exterior brick chimney is situated on the west elevation.

A one-story, full-width front porch is located on the south elevation. Four poured concrete steps are located on the east, west, and south sides of the one-bay poured concrete landing. Four wood posts set into brick columns support the shed roof of the porch. The one-bay landing is situated in front of the main entry into the dwelling, which occupies the center bay of the south (front) elevation. The main entry consists of a single-leaf wood door, accentuated by a three-light transom, and flanked by multi-pane sidelights.

The south (front) elevation consists of five, evenly spaced bays in a regular fenestration pattern. Eight-over-one light, double-hung sash, wood windows are situated on the façade. Two hipped-roof dormers each feature a single set of paired, six-light, fixed-sash, wood windows.

The east elevation consists of three bays in an irregular fenestration pattern. The northernmost bay of the first floor contains a one-story, one-bay, wood entry porch, which shelters a secondary entrance on this elevation. The entry consists of a single-leaf, eight-light-over-one-panel, wood door. A one-over-one light, double-hung sash, wood window flanks the door. Two single, eight-over-one light, double-hung sash, wood windows complete the first floor of the east elevation. The center bay of the second floor of the east elevation contains a ribbon of three, eight-over-one light, double-hung sash, wood windows. The northern bay contains a single set of paired, eight-over-one light, double-hung sash, wood windows. A single eight-over-one light, double-hung sash, wood window occupies the southernmost bay of the second floor of the east elevation.

The north (rear) elevation was inaccessible during the site visit.

The west elevation contains two bays in a regular fenestration pattern. The first floor contains no openings, while two evenly spaced, single, eight-over-one light, double-hung sash, wood windows occupy the second floor. The west elevation of a one-story, semi-enclosed, wood rear porch can be seen.

Interior Description

The interior of the residence at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) was inaccessible during the site visit.

Surrounding Landscape

A paved asphalt driveway is located on the east side of the dwelling and leads to a two-bay, contemporary garage located to the northeast of the dwelling. The weatherboard-clad garage is capped by a hipped roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. The building also contains a centrally located hipped-roof dormer complete with a set of paired, six-light, fixed-sash, wood windows. A grassy lawn, dotted with evergreen and deciduous trees, surrounds the property.

¹ Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 1994), 439.

8. Significance

Inventory No. AL-V-B-343

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates	Unknown	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	ca. 1910		

Evaluation for:

☒ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The stylistic details of the American Foursquare dwelling suggest the residence was erected between 1908 and 1920. However, a review of land transactions between 1908 and 1920 does not provide evidence as to a specific date of construction, nor does it confirm the presence of a residence during this time.

By a deed dated September 28, 1903, Webster and Jessie Long conveyed two lots of land near Allegany Grove and along the north side of a "county road" - now known as the National Highway (ALT US 40) - to Joseph S. Dempster.² Conveyed in consideration of \$900.00, the two lots of land were unseated. Unable to make his mortgage payments, the two unseated tracts of land were sold at public sale on December 5, 1908.³ George D. Landwehr, being the highest bidder, submitted the winning bid of \$700.00.⁴ A deed bearing the date January 27, 1909, formally transferred the property to George D. Landwehr.⁵ He retained the property until June 6, 1912, when it was conveyed to Peter Bareis.⁶

Around the same time, Peter and Amelia Bareis were acquiring other lots fronting the National Highway (ALT US 40). On May 11, 1914, they took out a mortgage, although it is unclear if the mortgage was to be used for the erection of a residence. The Bareis' defaulted on their mortgage in 1917, and consequently their property - consisting of four tracts of land along the National Highway (ALT US 40) - was sold at public sale on July 25, 1917. The Cumberland Milling Company submitted the winning bid of \$12,000.00. Following ratification of the sale by the Allegany County Circuit Court, a deed bearing the date January 30, 1918, formally conveyed the tracts to the Cumberland Milling Company.⁷

The Cumberland Milling Company conveyed the tracts, including the two Dempster lots, known as Lots 1 and 2, to John and Anna Jenkins on November 22, 1920, in consideration of \$17,250.00.⁸ By a deed dated August 30, 1928, John and Anna Jenkins conveyed all of Lot 1 and part of Lot 2 - being what is known today as 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) - to O. Hugo and Helene Keller.⁹ The Kellers retained the property until April 29, 1944, when they deeded it to Eugene and Clara T. Kester.¹⁰ The Kesters retained the property for only a few years before conveying it to Robert E. and Mary Helen Weires by a deed dated September 1, 1948.¹¹ The

² Allegany County Land Record Liber 93, Folio 600.

³ "Mortgagee's Sale of Valuable Lands Near Allegany Grove," *The Evening Times* [Cumberland, MD] 30 Nov. 1908:2.

⁴ Recited in Allegany County Land Record Liber 93, Folio 600.

⁵ Allegany County Land Record Liber 93, Folio 600.

⁶ Allegany County Land Record Liber 110, Folio 156.

⁷ Allegany County Land Record Liber 124, Folio 560.

⁸ Allegany County Land Record Liber 135, Folio 31.

⁹ Allegany County Land Record Liber 159, Folio 63.

¹⁰ Allegany County Land Record Liber 199, Folio 415.

¹¹ Allegany County Land Record Liber 222, Folio 160.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AL-V-B-343

Name Residence at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40)
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Weires also held the property for only a short time, conveying it to Mary M. and Bertrand A. Mason on November 23, 1951.¹² The Masons retained the property for over forty years. Bertrand A. Mason died on September 25, 1991, and his interest in the property passed to his wife. By a deed dated June 20, 1997, Mary M. Mason conveyed the property known as 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) to the present-day owners, Elizabeth A. and Jimmie Murphy.¹³

¹² Allegany County Land Record Liber 236:305.

¹³ Allegany County Land Record Liber 650, Folio 422.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. AL-V-B-343

Allegany County Clerk. Allegany County Land Records. On file at the Allegany County Clerks Office, Allegany County Courthouse, Cumberland, Maryland.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 1994.

The Evening Times [Cumberland, MD] "Mortgagee's Sale of Valuable Lands Near Allegany Grove," 30 Nov. 1908.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 39,097.00 square feet
Acreage of historical setting 39,097.00 square feet
Quadrangle name Cumberland

Quadrangle scale: 1: 24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary for the Residence at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) includes the existing tax parcel (022917). This boundary provides sufficient setting for the resource and encompasses all the historic features of the property that directly contribute to its period of significance (1910-1956) as is required by *Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties* (National Park Service 1997).

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Catherine Dluzak, Barbara Frederick, Emma Young		
organization	A.D. Marble & Company	date	March 27, 2006
street & number	10989 Red Run Blvd., Suite 2090	telephone	410-902-1421
city or town	Owings Mills	state	MD

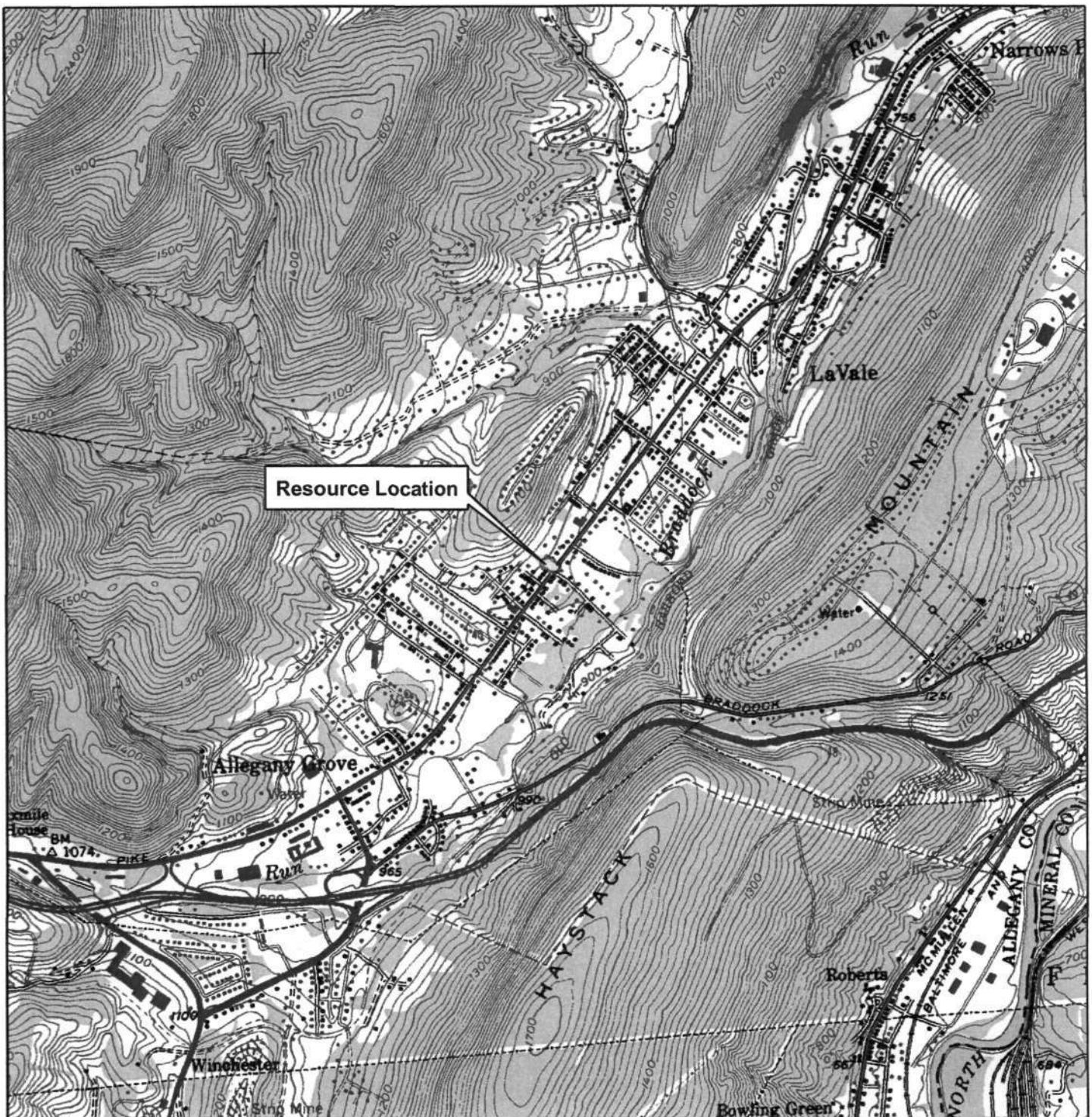
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Residence at 903 National Highway (ALT US 40) (AL-V-B-343)

ALT US 40 Streetscape Improvements
LaVale, Allegany County, Maryland



2,000 0 2,000 Feet



Sources: USGS 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle,
National Elevation Dataset, ESRI



AL-V-B-3A3

Residence at 903 National Hwy (ALT US 40)

Allegany County, MD

B. Frederick

03.2006

MD SHPO

South elevation, view to north

1/3



AL-V-B-3A3

Residence at 903 National Hwy (ALT US 40)

Allegany County, MD

B. Frederick

03.2006

MD SHPO

west & south elevations, view to NE

2/3



AL-V-B-343

Residence at 903 National Hwy (ALT US 40)

Allegany County, MD

B. Frederick

03.2006

MD SHPO

Garage; south elevation; view to north

3/3